

**Summary of Call with
City of Ottawa, Federal Government and Provincial Government
February 6, 2022 (11:00am EST)**

- Rob Stewart, Deputy Minister of Public Safety Canada, convened the meeting and was looking to get a sense of what is going on the ground in Ottawa and also steps to resolving the situation.
 - Rob Stewart noted that some of his federal ministers are concerned and want a quick resolution to the matter. There will be a core group of federal Cabinet Ministers at 2:00pm on the issue and how to position the federal government's response.
 - In addition, Rob Stewart noted that there continues to be concern from the federal ministers about the coordination of activities federally and with other partners.
- Steve Kanellakos, City Manager from Ottawa, provided an update from the city's perspective.
 - Steve Kanellakos is concerned about the posture of local councilors who are pointing the finger at the province and federal government to provide assistance to resolve the matter.
 - **Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson is going to declare a local emergency in the City of Ottawa at 4:30pm. The expressed intent of this declaration is to put pressure on the Premier to exercise powers to resolve this.**
 - The City of Ottawa will also be looking for what the province and federal governments can do to provide additional assistance.
 - Local city councilors from outside of the impacted area also being concerned. City councilors are floating other measures of support that is unreasonable such as military assistance to end the protests.
 - Steve Kanellakos and city officials are being pressed to arrange a City Council meeting this afternoon. However, city officials are advising that it be delayed to Monday to provide time for staff to prepare and provide advice to council.
 - Ottawa City council is likely going to ask the Premier and Prime Minister to intervene directly. They Mayor of Ottawa Jim Watson is feeling the pressure and want this issue to be pivoted back to Ontario and Canada.
 - City of Ottawa is looking for a way out.
 - Local MPs (Yasir Naqvi and Mona Fortier) are engaged significantly on the matter with the city and also other local MPPs have been in direct contact.
- Rob Stewart, Deputy Minister of Public Safety Canada, noted that other officials from Canada are on the call, including Jody Thomas who is the National Security

Advisor, David Vigneault, Director of CSIS, Brenda Lucki, Commissioner of the RCMP, and other public safety and emergency officials.

Ottawa Police Update

- Peter Sloly, Chief of Police at the Ottawa Police Service, thanked the RCMP commissioner for the 250 RCMP officers that were appointed to support their operations.
- In addition, he was complimentary of the support provided by Commissioner Carrique and Deputy Solicitor General Mario Di Tommaso.
- Mario Di Tommaso, Deputy Solicitor General, noted that the province expedited the approval of 249 special constables from the RCMP to assist Ottawa police service.
- Chief Peter Sloly noted that
 - Overnight demonstrations were much lower than the previous weekend. There were successes by the Ottawa Police Service in enforcing by-law infractions and provincial offences.
 - Major progress in the capabilities of police in interdicting the fuel supply for the protestors/encampments. Cutting off fuel supply is a major mission objective.
 - There are techniques from Winnipeg Police and Toronto Police deployed that are also assisting Ottawa police service in dealing with situations. Those techniques are being deployed.
- Chief Peter Sloly spoke about the success of negotiation approach in clearing Confederation Park
 - Primary objective has been to keep the peace.
 - Ottawa Police Service was operationally ready and about to commence a large deployment of public order units to take back the park and remove the encampments forcibly.
 - However, last attempts at negotiations were made to remove a big hindrance in the discussion process (i.e., a bad actor) and the engagement and assistance provided by Algonquin elders has led to a peaceful and negotiated solution.
 - The operation was not carried out and a negotiated solution was achieved.
 - Number of trucks are significantly lower than the peak. Ottawa Police Service is pivoting its resources to more problematic elements of the encampments.
 - There are two major operational targets today:
 - Interdicting the fuel supply; and

- Addressing the Rideau encampment. This encampment is led by bad actors. They appear to resemble motorcycle group behaviour.
- While an eye-sore, the Wellington encampment/protests are contained. There are no immediate safety issues and likely the trucks will be continued to be positioned in that location and an on-site impound has been developed. Ottawa Police Service will not tow trucks from the Wellington encampment.
- Ottawa Police Service has identified the suspect in the Cenotaph case.
- Ottawa Police Service is taking a more direct and harder line on criminal investigations among the encampments. There are two different prongs of Ottawa's investigation:
 - Reviewing and addressing people engaged in it; and
 - Dealing with people organizing the events.
- Ottawa Police Service is using all the tools in the box, including looking at federal licensing of vehicles, traffic violation and criminal investigations.
- There is an upcoming operational briefing.
 - One key element that Ottawa Police Service will emphasize is neutralizing the command and control capabilities of the organizer's sustaining the encampments.
 - Looking at how other Command Posts among other enforcement officials can assist.
- **Ottawa Police Service is compiling a list of resources that they require for the next 72 hours to 2 weeks to assist in managing the situation.**
 - **The list will be exhaustive, and it will be provided to the Mayor of Ottawa.**
- In addition, Ottawa Police Service is looking for practical suggestions to assist its operational work.
 - Peter identified the assistance of legal support provided by Commissioner Carrique.
- Rob Stewart, Deputy Minister of Public Safety Canada, posed the following question to Chief Peter Sloly.
 - What is the nature of the support that Ottawa is likely going to ask for? *(Note: Rob Stewart was trying to understand in unsaid terms whether Ottawa Police Service will directly request non-law enforcement assistance (i.e., military support).*
 - What are the obvious and visible successes that Ministers can be told and can also see?
 - Are you going to see success on obtaining tow truck support?
 - Are there are other police services supporting Ottawa Police Service?

- Comment from Jody Thomas, National Security Advisor:
 - She was pleased to hear the success of the negotiations at Confederation Park. From an official's perspective, Jody will be "emphatic" about the planned large tactical takedown that was avoided through negotiations. Jody saw it as a win of avoiding "guns pointed" in Confederation Park.
- Response to Questions from Chief Peter Sloly:
 - Wellington is the most contained and least risky on the encampment. However, it is a visible eye sore. Ottawa Police is not planning to tow those trucks.
 - The challenge is not the towing but rather the public order consequences associated with it that police action may provoke. It is a contained situation.
 - For example, there is newborn infant among crowd at Wellington and important at avoiding tactics that may harm vulnerable individuals is a primary objective of the Ottawa Police Service.
 - From a tactical perspective, the trucks in Wellington do not need to be moved.
 - Ottawa Police Service is developing I2 charts on all persons at the encampments.
 - Reiterated that the biggest risk for Ottawa Police Service is mainly from Rideau encampment headed by large a Quebec contingent. They seem to resemble a quasi-motorcycle group.
 - The encroachment of this group has been methodical.
 - They have aggressive stature and are blocking access routes to hospitals.
 - Making operational pushes for fuel supply. The group is well-organized.
- Response from Deputy Chief Steve Bell
 - Ottawa Police Service has about 120 to 130 officers on the ground.
 - More are coming in a few hours.
 - This personnel are a combination of OPP, RCMP and Ottawa Police Service personnel.
- Supplementary Response from Chief Peter Sloly
 - RCMP Officers are being sworn-in and their support will provide great assistance.
 - Provided an anecdote around RCMP officer administering Narcan to an individual on their way to providing assistance.
 - Ottawa Police Service has been engaged in discussions with their police association and President Matt Skof.

- They have been able to get agreement to waive days off, seek additional shifts for officers, etc. However, this agreement comes to an end this evening.
- The additional support from OPP and RCMP will help provide relief to Ottawa Police Service officers who have been 12 to 14 days straight.
 - The influx from other services will allow Ottawa Police Service to maintain its current posture because those officers will serve as a relief contingent. However, it will not add to the posture.
- Ottawa Police Service has two city tow trucks supporting. They are looking for other heavy tows.
 - However, Ottawa Police Service is transitioning away from using heavy tows to a different position where they will canvas qualified and licensed officers to drive away those vehicles from the location. This is a tactic picked up in other jurisdictions.
- **However, Ottawa Police Service is concerned about the public order implications of their interventions. For example, when by-law infraction notices were issued, within minutes officers were surrounded by over 100 people and immediately escalated.**
- Ottawa Police Service is thinking about a plan to support enforcement actions with public order unit support.
- Question from Mario Di Tommaso, Deputy Solicitor General:
 - Has Ottawa Police Service been working with the Ministry of the Attorney General to explore your options and in relation to position of the Crown for summary offences?
 - Have you learned lessons from the way Toronto Police Service dealt with the trucks?
- Response from Chief Peter Sloly
 - He is concerned about the risk and efficacy of enforcement actions now. The powers of existing legislation are sufficient but whether to enforce given the dynamic risk situation is the issue and the number of vulnerable individuals such as children and families embedded in the encampment elevates the calculation for Ottawa Police Service.
 - He is concerned about utilizing mass arrests and the limitation associated with it given the experience from G20. It is not a road he is looking to go down because of the legal and human rights implication.
 - He also noted that situation in Ottawa is much different than Toronto. Ottawa has seen 3,000 trucks come to it and Toronto is facing no more than a handful. The operational calculations are significantly different.

- Rob Stewart, Deputy Minister of Public Safety Canada, provided a summary that Chief Peter Sloly will take stock of what he needs and put forward a resource ask in relation to it.
- Chief Peter Sloly noted that;
 - Ottawa Police Service is engaged in heavy action but he doesn't want to deploy the "mailed fist" first. His primary objective will be to diffuse operationally via negotiations at a tactical level.
 - The additional resources requested will either accelerate the achievement of the priorities if delivered on by the province and the federal government or if some of it is not met, it will just get Ottawa Police Service personnel rested and healthy again to sustain their engagement.
- Michael Keenan, Deputy Minister of Transport Canada, added the following:
 - The department has done work with other motor vehicle transport authorities in other jurisdictions. Their objective is to flow consequences for those engaged with respect to insurance and licensing actions.
 - On tow trucks, he recommends that incentives be changed to pressure tow truck entities to participate in the action against the truckers.
 - Suggested that future work with police, federal and provincial entities be dependent on their participation today as a reliable partner.
 - An observation he provided that while Wellington encampments may be contained, it is the spiritual source of the protest movement. It is acting a fuel for the engagement of others. It is obviously less tactically important to deal with it at this juncture but has a greater impact on the movement from a visibility and communication angle. It creates the spiritual fuel that will sustain the actions of the various encampments.
- Laurie LeBlanc, Deputy Minister of Transportation, added the following:
 - On tow trucks, they will be working with the private sector industry to see what is available and can be provided.
 - From an enforcement perspective, the Ministry of Transportation is providing assistance where requested. However, the enforcement resources are limited.
 - In response to the point about using licensing as a sanctioning tool, she noted that demerit point is a long-term strategy that will not help with immediacy of the situation. It will not impact the actions of many in the short-term.
 - In addition, it seems many of the trucks are from outside the province and it adds a layer of complexity to the enforcement of licensing regime.
- Jody Thomas, National Security Advisor

- As a parent, how is enforcement officials addressing the children in the trucks. Looking at it from child welfare perspective, exposure to noise and diesel fuel can be a major issue.
- Can action be taken from the initial perspective?
- Response from Peter Sloly
 - The primary issue of concern for Ottawa Police Service is vulnerable persons such as women, babies and children that are part of encampment/protests. It is a major calculation of risk factors and primary determinant of police actions being taken.
 - Ottawa Police Service is engaged with Children's Aid Society and other partners on the welfare of children.
- Supplementary Response from Deputy Chief Steve Bell
 - Ottawa Police Service was in contact with Children Aid Society and planning is ongoing with them. As an example, there was a case last night they had a specific dealing on.
 - As part of Ottawa's strategy. They are clearly looking to identify everyone in the crowd to ensure an understanding who is there. This will inform tactics, strategy and negotiations.
 - Cutting of fuel supply is critical because that will assist people leaving voluntarily.
 - There is much to be remedied first through negotiations prior to enforcement.
- David Vigneault, Director of CSIS, provided the following update:
 - CSIS has been working closely with border partners, including RCMP and CBSA. CSIS has lookouts throughout and they have been quite effective.
 - There is no major organizing of truckers coming from USA to Canada as part of this convoy. It is primarily a domestic issue.
 - There are some individuals from other causes who are the hardened elements who will likely use violence but they see this as not their mission. They are in various locations like Parliament Hill, Quebec City, Toronto, Alberta; however, they are not actively participating or organizing it and are likely using this as a recruiting ground.
 - There are no foreign actors identified at this point supporting or financing this convoy. FINTRAC is supporting this work/assessment and the banks are also engaged. The GoFundMe money and other fundraising platforms are being tracked by FINTRAC and banks; and, making sure that it is not used for a non-peaceful purpose.
 - CSIS has also not seen any foreign money coming from other states to support this.
 - Looking at different venues to provide updates but CSIS is engaged. CSIS is part of the combined intelligence group for the convoy situation.

- There is not a lot energy and support from the USA to Canada.
 - CSIS has all hands-on deck to support law enforcement and is consistently providing intelligence.
- Question from Rob Stewart, Deputy Minister of Public Safety Canada:
 - Is incremental progress sufficient?
 - Can there be a core group of negotiators from Ontario, Canada, OPS, etc. to support the diffusion of this protest in order to satisfy the political objectives of the federal government.
- Response from Chief Peter Sloly
 - Ottawa Police Service is working on a document to share with all partners around the key leaders and organizers of the protest encampment/protest movement. It will only have names and other personal information being removed.
 - General Counsel from Ottawa Police or the Chief will share.
 - He is positive about the ability resolve much of the encampment/protest through negotiations.
 - Even in the most volatile footprints of encampment/protests, reiterated that negotiations have to be kept as the first option.
 - He would like to take the time to get resource footprint right and ensure that Ottawa Police Service has the capacity to respond. Once resources are provided and sustained, it will provide time for the province, federal and city government for negotiations with the encampment and protest leaders.
 - He noted that it will take about 2 to 3 days of operational time to get the worst actors out of the encampments. This will facilitate negotiations. Once done, the remaining 7 core organizers are reasonable and can be negotiated with.
- Supplementary Response from Deputy Chief Steve Bell
 - Ottawa Police Service spent a considerable time and made significant push the last 2 days to identify who represents the group.
 - Now, there is a primary group that speaks for over 2/3 of truckers.
 - Ottawa Police Service is assessing tactical actions and ensure that it bring that group more focus as the leaders.
- Response from Chief Peter Sloly
 - Ottawa Police Service is almost completing the acquisition of services from Advances Symbolic Inc. (artificial intelligence support) to help it model scenario in negotiations.
 - This is a similar capability now deployed by the province and the federal government.

- For example, looking at questions like who would be the type of interlocutor for this encampment organizers. It looked at several scenarios for interlocutor persons like:
 - Murray Sinclair – high trust and low name recognition;
 - Bob Rae – low trust and high name recognition
 - Louise Arbour – ****chief's assessment inaudible****
- Jody Thomas, National Security Advisor:
 - Noted that it was a positive meeting and regrets to end on this following point:
 - Would the Province be looking to the Federal Government if this protest was happening outside of the City of Ottawa (e.g., happening in other places like Kingston)?
- Response from Mario Di Tommaso, Deputy Solicitor General:
 - This is a protest and encampment movement against the federal mandate on trucks. They came to Ottawa from across the country for that purpose.